

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 21st May 2017

Silent Key - Mike VE3AO/EI7DH

The death has occurred of Mike Ennis VE3AO/EI7DH of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada on 13th May 2017. Mike was one of the original members of the 'Irish Hour.'

May he rest in peace

40 Metres Contest

The deadline for the submission of logs is today Sunday 21st May.

Amateur Station Licence Examination

The next Amateur Station Licence Examination will be held on Thursday 29th June in the ComReg Offices in Dublin. Some applications have already been received and as numbers are limited those intending to sit the examination should apply soon. Full details, including entry procedure, examination fee and how to pay the fee on line are available at www.irts.ie/exam .

Please note that it is necessary to download the application form from the web page and forward the completed form and the appropriate fee so as to secure a place for the examination.

It is also important to note that even if you pay the fee on-line you must still complete and forward the application form. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Monday 12th June.

Four Exam Reports which were previously published in Echo Ireland are available on the Downloads section of the website at www.irts.ie/downloads under "Studying for the Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate". These reports contain very useful information for anyone studying for the Licence Examination. Intending candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the syllabus for the examination especially Annexes 1 and 2.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will for the 10th consecutive year take part in the Geoparks Communications weekend which takes place this year over the weekend of 3rd & 4th June to coincide with European Geoparks week. The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will be QRV as EI2GEO from the Copper Coast Geopark in Bunmahon County Waterford. As the Geopark event is not a contest, operation tends to be relaxed with ample time and an ideal location to experiment with antennas and equipment. There is also a strong social aspect to the event with barbecue and drinks on the Saturday night. Activity will be mainly on HF (SSB and CW). For more information about EI2GEO please see www.searg.ie

Please note that there will be no May meeting of SEARG. Normal meetings will resume in June.

For anyone wishing to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and its activities, they are welcome to come along to any of our meetings. You can check our website www.searg.ie and you can also follow join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

DX News

Zorro JH1AJT and a small team of 3 other DXers will be QRV as E31A from Asmara in Eritrea until 29th May. Operation will be on 160m to 10m CW, SSB and RTTY. Eritrea is a rare DXCC entity and Zorro has been involved in humanitarian efforts there in recent years. QSLs will be available via Club Log OQRS.

Two German amateurs, DF3MC and DL8JJ, will be in the Faroe Islands until 25th May using the callsigns OY/homecall. Their main aim while there is to operate from summits as part of the Summits on the Air programme but they will also be on HF at other times.

Henning OZ1BII will again reactivate his ZA/OU2I callsign from Albania on 25th to 29th May. His stay will take in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest on 27th to 28th May. QSL via Club Log OQRS.

Tom KC0W had hoped to be signing 8R1/KC0W in Guyana at this time but was unable to finalise licensing details. However he has instead made arrangements to be active from Zimbabwe as Z25DX from 23rd May to 18th June. As usual Tom is a CW only operator and QSLs go via KC0W.

Mexico now on 60m

The Mexican regulator has approved amateur radio on the new WRC-15 60m amateur secondary allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5kHz. Maximum power is 20w EIRP.

Poland soon to join 60m

Polish amateurs will soon be (end of May 2017) permitted access to the WRC-15 60m amateur secondary allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz under ITU Footnote 5.133B - i.e. with 15W EIRP

Also, they now have 70 MHz access from 70.0 – 7.30 MHz, Secondary basis, 20W EIRP

Causeway Coast & Glens ARC Rally

The Causeway Coast & Glens ARC rally takes place on Sunday 28th May at the Bushmills Community Centre 14 Dunluce Road, Bushmills, County Antrim. Doors open at 11am and admission is £3.00. Free Bring and Buy and the usual trader stalls. Light refreshments available. Free Parking. For more details see causewaycoastandglens.wixsite.com/home

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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